

Dear Parents,

### ***Staffing***

It was also a good opportunity to welcome back Mrs Ashleigh Phillips from family leave, while also introducing Miss Ashleigh Vuillermin to our school community. Mrs Phillips is teaching part time in the Grade Prep/1 class this year, while Miss Vuillermin has joined the Grade 4/5 classroom as an intern teacher whilst completing her fourth year of university. Both teachers have settled into our school really easily and I look forward to working with them throughout the year.

### ***Black Saturday Ceremony***

Parents are reminded we will hold a short ceremony at school on Monday 9th February at 9:00am for the anniversary of the Black Saturday bushfires. We will recognise this date with a minute silence before continuing with the remainder of the assembly.

### ***Welcome To Parents BBQ***

We are providing a BBQ on Wednesday 11th February from 5:30pm for a 6:00pm dinner to welcome all parents to our school this year. It is also a great opportunity for parents to meet our new staff members. Students will also be able to show their parents some of the work they have been doing so far this year. We look forward to seeing you here! Please remember to complete the slip attached to this newsletter and return to school by Friday to assist with catering. Please note the school will provide sausage and hamburgers and parents can bring along anything else they require e.g. salads, plates.

### ***Student Free Day***

School Council have approved our first Student Free Day for Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March. On this day, we will be attending a local Professional Development workshop held by Rob Vingerhoets who will be working with us to develop a whole school approach to teaching numeracy. Rob is a well renowned educator who has worked with schools right through Australia and overseas. We also plan to provide a parent information session following the workshop to explain to parents how we teach maths.

### ***Hats***

Students are reminded that they are required to wear School Council approved hats whilst playing outside during term 1 and 4 as per our school policy. Students who are not wearing a hat will be required to play

under the appropriate shaded areas of the school ground. Please remind your child to bring their hat to school each day.

### ***Tissues***

A reminder to parents that tissues are no longer included in the Materials Charges, as per the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's policy. However, we do ask that parents supply a box of tissues to their child's classroom please.

### ***Class Letters***

All teachers will be sending out a class letter by the end of this week, outlining the program for the term, and will also include information regarding rules, consequences and rewards. Teachers will also include their email address should you prefer to contact them in this way. As was the case previously, teachers will be available to meet with parents to discuss their child's progress by appointment. Teachers are also available for a quick catch up from 8:40am – 8:50am and after school from 3:35pm.

### ***Late Arrivals***

Parents are reminded to fill out and sign the late arrivals book at the front office when their children are late to school. This year, we aim to minimise the number of students who are late to school as it has a large impact on their wellbeing and can lead to socialisation issues. There was a significant number of students arriving to school late each day last year and I ask that parents strive to address this. We have a high incidence of late arrivals compared to other schools, with even a couple of minutes late having a negative effect on student learning and social development at school. It is good practice to arrive at 8:50am when the bag bell goes to ensure students are ready for learning once the next bell rings at 9:00am.

### ***Before School Supervision and Entry/Exit to Classrooms***

Please note that before-school supervision is provided each day from 8:45am. The bag bell will ring at 8:50am when students are allowed to put their bags away, with classes beginning at 9:00am. Parents who drop their children at school after 8:30am should be aware that supervision is not provided until 8:45am. It is vital for your child's progress that they attend school as often as possible and are punctual each day. Students who are punctual and attend regularly generally perform better than those students who are regularly late or who have significant absenteeism. In addition, at the beginning and end of the day, students are required to

enter the school from the external classroom doors, or the doors near the undercover area. Students are not permitted in the front foyer unless putting money in the slot, putting in lunch orders, forms etc.

### **2015 Materials Charges**

The 2015 Materials Charges have been set by School Council and will be \$120 per student. This payment goes towards student and class consumable materials. This payment is not voluntary and needs to be made before the end of February unless an appropriate payment plan has been organised with me.

### **2015 Voluntary Contribution**

The 2015 Voluntary Contribution has been set by the School Council and will be \$30 per student towards ICT related equipment, \$10 per student which goes towards grounds maintenance, in particular mowing plus the \$30 per family working bee payment.

**Joel Fraser – Principal**

### **WELFARE AND SUPPORT**

As part of my role within the school I support children who may be experiencing difficulties socially, emotionally or in their behaviour in and out of the classroom. Usually this involves informal meetings where we discuss strategies and management procedures to secure better outcomes for the child and the wider school community. I am also available to meet with parents to discuss any concerns you may have. Obviously Mr Fraser and class teachers are also appropriate people to approach regarding your child/children's welfare at school. Please feel free to contact me via phone calls, emails or in person.

*Regards - Kristine Travers*

### **PARENTS & FRIENDS MEETING**

The first Parents & Friends meeting for 2015 will be on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> February after assembly. We are a welcoming group who are open to new faces and ideas and would love to see you there. If this time doesn't suit you and you are interested in joining in please let us know as this time is flexible. Parents with preschool aged children are more than welcome. We would love to hear your ideas on fundraising and activity planning as we are all working towards the same cause for our children at the school. If you are unable to attend meetings and would like to share your ideas please contact Renee Gore, Parents & Friends President or Joel Fraser.

**Weekly Newsletter No 1**  
**Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2015**



## **Welcome Back**

Welcome back to the beginning of another year. I hope everyone had a relaxing break and are ready to begin another great year of learning at our school. We have another very exciting year ahead and I look forward to seeing the progress our students make over the next twelve months. It was fantastic to officially welcome our new Prep students at the school assembly last Thursday morning. We look forward to seeing them grow and develop over the next seven years of their schooling. I would also like to welcome our families that are new to our school this year. We look forward to working with you to develop confident, resilient and resourceful students.



Parents of Prep students are reminded that their children aren't required to attend on Wednesdays during February, with the first Wednesday of attendance to be the 5<sup>th</sup> of March. Prep students have been allocated a time on a Wednesday to come in and complete assessment tasks.

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[traralgonsthps.wikispaces.com](http://traralgonsthps.wikispaces.com)

## DATES TO REMEMBER

|        |     |  |
|--------|-----|--|
| 9 Feb  | Mon | Parents & Friends Meeting – After assembly |
| 11 Feb | Wed | Welcome BBQ – 5:30pm                       |
| 27 Feb | Fri | Clean Up Australia Day                     |
|        |     | Materials Charges Due                      |
| 5 Mar  | Thu | Student Free Day                           |
| 9 Mar  | Mon | Labor Day Public Holiday                   |
| 23 Mar | Mon | School Photos                              |
| 27 Mar | Fri | Last Day Term 1                            |

### JUNIOR SOCCER

Junior Soccer Season is starting at Traralgon City Soccer Club from **Tuesday 3rd February**. We invite all new and previous players to join a community club and make friends in a team environment. Both boys teams and girls teams available for any age!

Under 7, 9 and 11 train Thurs 4.30 – 5.30pm

Under 12 train Tues and Thurs 4.45 – 5.45pm

Under 14 and Under 16 train Tues and Thurs 5.30 – 6.30pm

Under 18 train Tues and Thurs from 6.30pm

Considerations can be made for those with study commitments. Players can join at any time! Located on Davidson Street behind Table Tennis building. Please call Amanda on 0407 500388 with any enquiries.



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### RETURN SLIP FOR WELCOME BBQ

To be held Wednesday 11th February. Please return asap but no later than 9:00am Friday 6th February.

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Hamburgers required: \_\_\_\_\_

Sausages required: \_\_\_\_\_